

FELICIAN SISTERS HONORED AS  
1995 "POLISH AMERICANS OF THE  
YEAR"

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 7, 1995*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Felician Order of Sisters who have been named "Polish Americans of the Year" by The Milwaukee Society, an affiliate of the Polish National Alliance.

In 1855, the Felician Order was established in Poland by Mary Angela Truskowska. Nineteen years later, in 1874, five Felician Sisters came to the United States and opened a parochial school in Polonia, WI. As time went on and their numbers increased, they also established orphanages, homes for the elderly, hospitals, and day care centers, in addition to teaching. Today, St. Francis Hospital, Villa St. Francis, the Terrace at St. Francis, and St. Joseph Day Care Center for Children are all examples of their continued ministry on Milwaukee's South Side.

When I attended St. Helen's Grade School, the Felicians staffed the facility and I know full well of their dedication and impact on educating young minds. I warmly remember the discipline and understanding and warmth—although for some reason, I remember the discipline the most! I wonder why?

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Felician Sisters' remarkable contribution to the citizens of Milwaukee, WI, and to the United States. They are a shining example of the commitment and dedication which is representative of Polish immigrants throughout our nation's history.

Mr. Speaker, I offer best wishes and congratulations to the Felician Sisters as this year's Milwaukee Society's "Polish Americans of the Year."

TRIBUTE TO ED GANNAWAY

**HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 7, 1995*

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, August 22, 1995, is a day etched in the minds of those who flew on board ASA Commuter Flight 529 from Atlanta, GA, Gulfport, MS. Flight 529 was forced to crash land in a small field near Carrollton, GA, resulting in the death of four passengers and its captain, Ed Gannaway of Dublin, GA. However, due to the sheer heroics of Captain Gannaway, 26 passengers survived the crash landing. Landing a plane with a blown engine took a level head and all the outstanding skills available to Captain Gannaway.

Flight attendant Robin Fech, of Warner Robins, has similarly earned our praise for her calm and efficient preparation of the passengers for the crash landing that awaited them. Fortunately, Robin Fech survived the ill-fated flight.

Today, I would like to take this time to recognize Captain Ed Gannaway for the manner in which he guided his crippled plane over houses, power lines, and trees to finally find the hayfield near Carrollton. Because of Ed

Gannaway, 24 others are still alive today. Ed Gannaway was a great American, and many lives are touched by his passing. Whether it be the kids from Boy Scout Troop 66 or those that knew him from First United Methodist church in Dublin, Ed Gannaway will be missed.

Our hearts go out to his wife, Jackie, and three sons, Craig, Russell, and Rob. It will always be hard to face this loss, but I pray that it be reassuring to know that Ed Gannaway died for the sake of other lives. Without Ed Gannaway as pilot on this particular day, the news of this crash might have been far graver. The best way to sum up Ed Gannaway's feat is as Rev. Jack Key said, "Ed Gannaway truly flew on wings of eagles."

INTRODUCING THE MEDICARE AND  
MEDICAID PAYMENT INTEGRITY  
ACT OF 1995

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 7, 1995*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce, with my colleague, Mr. WAXMAN, the Medicare and Medicaid Payment Integrity Act of 1995.

This legislation would improve the Government's ability to detect fraud and abuse in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. It would create a new mechanism to increase funding available for combating health care fraud and abuse without drawing down from the U.S. Treasury, or further burdening taxpayers.

The bill would establish a new health care antifraud reinvestment fund, into which certain monetary recoveries resulting from health care fraud enforcement cases would be deposited. These funds would be used to support additional enforcement activities by the Federal Government. The account would be available to fund expanded and innovative methods to investigate fraud and abuse, sanction offenders, deter misconduct, and return improperly spent money to the trust fund and the Treasury. Thus, the individuals and corporations who defraud our Nation's health care system will foot the bill for increased policing of these programs.

This legislation also provides for a stable funding source for payment integrity activities undertaken by the health care financing administration. These include:

First, medical and utilization review; second, audit of cost reports; third, Medicare secondary payer determinations and recovery of payments; and fourth, education of providers and beneficiaries regarding payment integrity. These activities would no longer be subject to the ups and downs of the appropriations process. However, spending could not exceed the amounts that were appropriated for fiscal year 1996 through 2002.

This bill is a serious attempt to expand fraud and abuse activities without increasing burdens on Federal taxpayers. In the near future, Senator BOB GRAHAM of Florida will be introducing this bill as part of a larger legislative package that includes further expansion of fraud and abuse activities. We have been talking with Senator GRAHAM and his staff and may be offering an even broader bill in the House in the near future.

In the meantime, this is a good first step and I commend it to my colleagues.

HONORING BOB SLAGLE FOR HIS  
SERVICE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE  
TEXAS DEMOCRATIC PARTY

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 7, 1995*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to submit the following statement on behalf of myself and my Democratic colleagues in the Texas delegation:

Our friend Bob Slagle, who has served as Chairman of the Texas Democratic Party since September, 1980, has announced that he will not seek reelection in 1996. Party activists and party officers are often typecast and miscast as "political hacks" engaged in a cynical electoral game that emphasizes only winning and cares little about policy and its effect on people. Often the work of party leaders is taken for granted, as credit and glory is showered on consultants, candidates, and high profile political gurus.

Over the span of 15 years, Bob Slagle has sacrificed his time and energy serving his party, his state, and his nation, and we are thankful for the respect and commitment he has shown to those of us who have run for office and serve in this great body. Today we are proud to salute our Chairman, Bob Slagle, for his commitment to the people and his belief that this great system of government we call democracy must work to make sure all Americans have the opportunity to fully realize their talents and put them to work for the common good. Although he is a fierce partisan, Bob is an even fiercer patriot, a man whose politics are driven by a belief that the more people participate in politics, the better our government will serve the people.

When one stops to think about what it must be like to deal year round with all the different groups and factions within a political party, one has to appreciate the dedication Bob has shown to working to keep Democrats together as we have fought for those things we believe are important for our country. As Chairman, Bob has worked to make sure the Texas Democratic Party is truly an inclusive, democratic party, the party where all calls are taken, where everyone still counts. At the same time, the Texas Democratic Party has pioneered many modern campaign concepts during Bob's tenure, including the ticketwide coordinated campaign; the development of a statewide computerized voter file that contains voter history, targeting, and demographics data to allow campaigns to target voter contact efforts; and the implementation of a secure, on-line interactive communications network.

Thanks to Chairman Slagle's tireless efforts, Democratic officeholders have not been "defeated with a redistricting map," while at the same time the protection and creation of African American and Hispanic districts have been achieved. Perhaps most important, Bob worked to build a solid small donor base to assure the party of a stable funding source, and he and the party staff have traveled all over Texas to conduct workshops, hold rallies, and campaign for Democrats up and down the ticket. All this has helped keep the Democrats the majority party in Texas at a time when many other states with similar demographics have been flooded by a "Republican tide."